

ABSTRACT

5 A method and apparatus for operating a security gate is disclosed which may comprise a drive mechanism arm having a first end and a second end, and including a security gate attachment member connected to the first end of the drive mechanism arm; a drive mechanism actuator operatively connected directly or indirectly to the drive mechanism arm and adapted to move the drive mechanism arm along a predefined path in relation to the actuator in response to operation of the actuator; and a release mechanism adapted to release the connection of the security gate attachment member to the first end of the drive mechanism arm in response to the application of a force to the security gate attachment member in a direction other than the force applied to the security gate attachment member by the drive mechanism arm in response to the operation of the actuator to move the security gate drive mechanism arm along the predefined path. The apparatus and method may also include a retractor to retract the drive arm after disconnection. 10 The apparatus and method may have an actuator is a linear motion actuator connected directly to the drive mechanism arm, or a rotary motion actuator indirectly connected to the drive mechanism arm. 15